

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07
TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
INRE-00 AGRE-00 OIC-02 /095 W
-----106838 031932Z /45

O 031851Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5274
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USLO PEKING
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 04251

USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, EIND, ETRD, CIEC, UNCTAD, EAID, JA, CH, GATT,
GR, ECIN, CY

REFS: (A) 77 BRUSSELS 15772; (B) 77 BRUSSELS 15375; (C)
BRUSSELS 2298 (ALL REFERENCES NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO EC COUNCIL AND PERMREP SOURCES, FOLLOWING
IS THE AGENDA FOR THE MARCH 7 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS
COUNCIL:

A. SHIPBUILDING:

EC COMMISSIONER DAVIGNON WILL SEEK TO OBTAIN THE
COUNCIL'S POLITICAL ENDORSEMENT OF THE COMMISSION'S
GENERAL STRATEGY FOR RESTRUCTURING THE
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SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY (77 BRUSSELS 15772). THE
PROPOSED FOURTH DIRECTIVE ON STATE AIDS TO THE
SHIPBUILDING SECTOR (77 BRUSSELS 15375) IS EXPECTED
TO BE APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL AS AN A-POINT
(WITHOUT DEBATE).

B. STEEL:

DAVIGNON IS TO REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE COMMISSION'S BILATERAL STEEL NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN, JAPAN, AND EFTA AND EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

C. NORTH/SOUTH:

THE MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES, PRINCIPALLY LDC DEBT RELIEF, COMMON FUND AND COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, AND THE UN OVERVIEW MECHANISM. THE ONLY POSSIBLE DECISIONS ARE ON DEBT (SUBJECT TO DEVELOPMENTS DURING COUNCIL DEBATE) AND ON COMMUNITY SUBMISSIONS TO THE MAY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING IN NEW YORK.

D. JAPAN:

DANISH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSEN (COUNCIL PRESIDENT) AND COMMISSION OFFICIALS ARE TO REPORT ON RECENT TRADE DISCUSSIONS WITH JAPANESE OFFICIALS IN TOKYO.

E. MTN:

THE COMMISSION IS TO REPORT ON THE STATUS OF MTN DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA. NO DECISIONS ARE EXPECTED.

F. EC/PRC TRADE AGREEMENT:

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THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED EC/PRC TRADE AGREEMENT (BRUSSELS 2298) IS EXPECTED TO BE RATIFIED AS AN A-POINT, CLEARING THE WAY FOR SIGNATURE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

G. CYPRUS:

COREPER AGREED MARCH 2 TO A NEW NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVE FOR THE COMMISSION ON CYPRUS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS (POTATOES, CARROTS, GRAPES, ETC.) THE NEW DIRECTIVE WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL AS AN A-POINT, SUBJECT TO THE LIFTING OF UK WAITING RESERVE. ACCORDING TO A PERMREP SOURCE, THE NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVE COVERS ONLY THE PERIOD 1978-1979 WITHIN SPECIFIC CALENDAR TIMEFRAMES. CYPRIOT MISSION SOURCE TOLD US THAT WHILE NEW COMMUNITY NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVE IS AN IMPROVEMENT OVER EARLIER EC OFFER, IT ADDS UP TO LESS THAN WHAT CYPRIOTS WANT. HE REITERATED, HOWEVER, THAT CYPRIOT GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS WITH A VIEW TO FURTHER IMPROVING COMMUNITY CONCESSIONS.

H. GREEK ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS:

THE COUNCIL IS EXPECTED TO TAKE NOTE OF THE RESULTS OF THE FEBRUARY 27 DEPUTIES-LEVEL NEGOTIATING SESSION ON FREE MOVEMENT OF GOODS IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR. THE COMMISSION MAY ALSO REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ITS PAPER ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS, WHICH IS TO BE PRESENTED TO THE GREEK NEGOTIATORS AT AN EARLY DATE.

I. PREPARATIONS FOR THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL:

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 04251

THE MINISTERS ARE EXPECTED TO AGREE ON ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 7-8 EUROPEAN COUNCIL, WHICH WOULD THEN BE SUBMITTED TO HEADS OF GOVERNMENT FOR APPROVAL.

J. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DIRECT ELECTIONS:

IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR DISCUSSION OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AGENDA, THE MINISTERS WILL BE ASKED TO ENDORSE TWO SEPARATE SETS OF DATES, IN MAY AND JUNE 1979, DURING WHICH EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DIRECT

ELECTIONS MIGHT BE HELD. THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT
WOULD THEN BE ASKED TO CHOOSE BETWEEN THESE SETS
OF DATES DURING THEIR APRIL SUMMIT. HINTON

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